

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: CHAIRMAN JOE BALYEAT, on January 9, 2009 at 9 A.M., in Room 422 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Joe Balyeat, Chairman (R)
Sen. Verdell Jackson, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)
Sen. Roy Brown (R)
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)
Sen. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)
Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Carolyn Squires (D)
Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Linda Keim, Committee Secretary
Pat Murdo, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 127, SB 133, SB 141, 1/6/2009

Executive Action: SB 141

HEARING ON SB 127

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:33 **SEN. KIM GILLAN (D), SD 24**, opened the hearing on **SB 127**, Revise insurance producer licensing laws.
EXHIBIT (bus05a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:37 John Mudd, Executive Counsel, State Auditor's Office
00:06:53 Don Allen, Insurance Financial Advisors' Association
00:08:45 Bob Biskupiak, Independent Insurance Agents of Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:10:14 Chairman Balyeat
00:10:42 Sen. Gillan
00:10:48 Christina Goe, Chief Legal Counsel, State Auditor's Office

Closing by Sponsor:

00:12:10 Sen. Gillan

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 85

00:13:34 **Motion:** Sen. Tropila **MOVED TO TABLE SB 85.**

Discussion:

00:13:58 Sen. Barkus

00:14:31 **Vote:** **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously by voice vote.
EXHIBIT (bus05a02)

(Note: The action to Table was not necessary since the Sponsor, Sen. Tropila had requested No Hearing.

00:14:40 Sen. Windy Boy entered the meeting.

HEARING ON SB 133

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:14:49 SEN. CHRISTINE KAUFMANN (D), SD 41, opened the hearing
on SB 133, Revise insurance laws.

EXHIBIT (bus05a03)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:17:37 John Mudd

00:18:16 Christina Goe

00:19:22 Sen. Keane left the Hearing

00:24:18 Susan Witte, Vice President and General Counsel,
Allegiance Health

EXHIBIT (bus05a04)

00:25:55 Sen. Steinbeisser left the Hearing

00:26:29 Tanya Ask, New West Health Services

00:27:03 Frank Cote, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana (BCBS)

00:28:02 Dennis Lopach, America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP)

00:28:43 Greg Van Horssen, State Farm Insurance Company

00:29:01 Bruce Spencer, Property Casualty Insurers Association

00:29:16 Don Allen, Association of Insurance Financial Advisers

00:29:43 Jacqueline Lenmark, American Insurance Corporation, also
representing American Council of Life Insurers

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:31:17 Sen. Brown

00:31:37 Ms. Kaufmann

00:31:53 Sen. Barkus

00:32:17 Ms. Goe

00:33:17 Chairman Balyeat

Closing by Sponsor:

00:33:48 Sen. Kaufmann

HEARING ON SB 141

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:34:35 SEN. JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA (D), SD 13, opened the hearing on SB 141, Repeal franchise insurance.
[EXHIBIT \(bus05a05\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:36:53 John Mudd, Executive Counsel, State Auditor's Office

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:38:09 Sen. Tropila

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 141

00:38:41 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Tropila moved SB 141 DO PASS. Motion carried unanimously, 8-0.

00:39:21 Sen. Windy Boy

00:39:49 Sen. Steinbeisser returned to the hearing

00:40:50 Chairman Balyeat

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:40 A.M.

LINDA KEIM, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([bus05aad.pdf](#))